

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JERUSA 00562 191255Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
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R 191010Z APR 77
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8887
INFO AMEMBASY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN NY

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, PBOR, IS, JO
SUBJ: MEIR KAHANE IN NABLUS

REF: TEL AVIV 2724 (NOTAL)

1. RABBI MEIR KAHANE, FOUNDER OF JEWISH DEFENCE LEAGUE, VISITED
NABLUS APRIL 17 ARMED AND ACCOMPANIED BY TWO SUPPORTERS CARRYING
SUB-MACHINE GUNS TO ATTEMPT TO MEET WITH MAYOR BASSAM SHAKA'
AND DISCUSS, AS KAHANE PUT IT, THE RETURN OF JEWS TO SHECHEM
(NABLUS).

2. SHAKA' REFUSED TO SEE KAHANE AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES BLOCKED
ENTRANCE TO MUNICIPALITY. ARAB DEMONSTRATORS BURNT TIRES AND
STONED VEHICLES IN PROTEST. NO ARRESTS OR INJURIES REPORTED.

3. FOR THE FIRST TIME IN OUR MEMORY, THE JERUSALEM POST AND
AL FAJR CONCURRED IN INTERPRETING KAHANE'S VISIT AS AN ELECTION
TACTIC

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PAGE 02 JERUSA 00562 191255Z

AND QUESTIONING THE MILGOV'S WISDOM IN ALLOWING
IT TO TAKE PLACE.

4. ACCORDING TO THE JERUSALEM POST, APRIL 19, GENERAL
AVRAHAM ORLY, CCORDINATOR OF OPERATIONS IN THE ADMINISTERED
TERRITORIES, WARNED KAHANE APRIL 18 TO RESTRIAN HIMSELF AND NOT
ATTEMPT TO MEET ANY OTHER WEST BANK OFFICIALS WITHOUT HIS PER-

MISSION.

5. AL QUDS REPORTS THAT A DELEGATION OF ISRAELIS BELONGING TO THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY WILL VISIT NABLUS APRIL 19 BRINING FLOWERS AND PAMPHLETS PROTESTING KAHANE'S BEHAVIOR.

6. COMMENT: REPORT THAT GOI MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE ON SETTLEMENTS WILL RECOMMEND A SETTLEMENT AT MESHAH IN THE NABLUS DISTRICT WITHIN A FEW WEEKS (REFTEL), HAS BEEN FEATURED PROMINENTLY IN THE ARABIC PRESS. CURRENT SITUATION IN NABLUS UNCOMFORTABLY SIMILAR TO SITUATION PRECEDING DESECRATION INCIDENTS IN HEBRON IN EARLY OCTOBER 1976, WHEN MILGOV GAVE KIRYAT ARBA ZEALOTS, JOINED ON ONE OCCASION BY KAHANE, LATITUDE TO PRESS THEIR CLAIMS TO FORMER JEWISH SITES IN HEBRON. WITH THE ISSUE OF A PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AT MESHAH, DIRECT PROVOCATIONS IN THE FORM OF SETTLEMENT MARCH AND UNWELCOMED VISITS, AND THE OCCASIONS OF UPCOMING ISRAELI NATIONAL HOLIDAYS, LIKELIHOOD OF FURTHER TROUBLE IN NABLUS IS GREAT. FROM THE ISRAELI PERSPECTIVE A GOI-AUTHORIZED SETTLEMNT AT MESHAH (ABOUT 20 KM SOUTHWEST OF NABLUS) IS, NO DOUBT AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT MATTER FROM KAHANE'S ANTICS IN NABLUS ITSELF. HOWEVER, THE ARABS DOD NOT MAKE SUCH DISTINCTIONS AND THE EFFECT WITH THEM IS SIMPLY CUMULATIVE.

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